

MINUTES  
**HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, January 20, 2026

**TIME:** 9:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW20

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Vander Woude, Vice Chairman Erickson, Representatives Healey, Redman, Wheeler, Beiswenger, Burgoyne, Cayler, Fuhriman, Leavitt, McCann, Thompson, Hall, Tanner(13), Rubel, Egbert

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** None

**GUESTS:** The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

**Chairman Vander Woude** called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Rep. Josh Tanner**, District 14, Co-chair, Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee (JFAC), presented information regarding the JFAC budgeting process, the constitutional balanced budget requirement, current budget hold back areas suggested by the Governor, yearly budget supplemental drivers, and the budget impact of in-process federal waivers. He explained the need for accurate, not anticipated, fiscal note information. He also expressed concern for Medicaid not being used as the originally designed safety net program. Rep. Tanner stressed the need for the committee's engagement in the budget decision making process.

**Alex Williamson**, Budget & Policy Analyst, Budget and Policy Analysis, said she handles budgets for Medicaid, Behavioral Health, and Indirect Support. She introduced **Morgan Poloni** who handles the budgets for Child Welfare, Licensing and Certification, Public Health, and Independent Living Councils.

**Morgan Poloni**, Budget & Policy Analyst, Budget and Policy Analysis, showed the committee how to obtain a variety of current and past budget information through the legislative website. She said the JFAC session budget presentations can be very helpful.

**Keith Bybee**, Division Manager, Budget and Policy Analysis, stated reports with inflation adjusted budget information are currently being developed.

**Chairman Vander Woude** told the committee the budget funds are short, no matter the reason, and adjustments have to be made. He would like the committee to make honest evaluations for a path forward to address the budget issue with some consensus. The final committee JFAC report date is estimated to be the first week in February.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

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Representative Vander Woude  
Chair

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Irene Moore  
Secretary